

Appl. No. 10/796,859
Amendment dated April 19, 2007
Reply to Office Action of January 19, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office action dated January 19, 2007, setting forth a shortened three month statutory period for reply expiring on April 19, 2007.

Claims 1-3 and 5-19 were pending in this application, with claims 1, 6, 10, 11, 13 and 14 being independent claims. In brief review, the Examiner has allowed claims 1-3, 5-9, 11 and 14.

Claims 10, 13 and 15, 17 and 19 were rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by Gillingham; claims 10, 15 and 17-19 were rejected under §102(b) as being anticipated by Kobatake; and claims 10, 13, 15, 16 and 19 were rejected under §102(e) as being anticipated by Morishita.

By this amendment, claim 10 has been cancelled, claims 11 and 13-19 are amended and new claim 20 has been added. More specifically, claims 11 and 14 have been amended to address the claim objections cited by the Examiner, original dependent claims 15-19 have been amended to depend from allowed claim 11, independent claim 13 has been amended from independent form to depend from allowed claim 11 and new claim 20 has been added that extracts an element from canceled independent claim 10 and creates a new dependent claim from allowed claim 11.

Accordingly, claims 1-3, 5-9, 11, and 13-20 are pending with claims 1, 6, 11 and 14 being independent claims. Reconsideration of the application and claims is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-3, 5-9, 11 and 14 are allowable, including independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 14. The Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter.

RESPONSE TO CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner required correction of independent claims 11 and 14 to insert the phrase "coupled with the floating current mirror" after the phrase a "pull down transistor." The Applicant has amended the claims accordingly.